

Northern bog lemmings: survey, population parameters, and population analysis

**A Report to:
USDA Forest Service**

**Kootenai National Forest
506 U.S. Highway 2 West
Libby, MT 59923**

Submitted by:

**James D. Reichel
and
Janelle G. Corn**

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**Montana Natural Heritage Program
1515 E. Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 201800
Helena, MT 59620-1800**

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ABSTRACT

Northern bog lemmings (*Synaptomys borealis*) were discovered in 1992-3 in single patches within the Cody Creek and South Fork Hawkins Creek drainages. During the 1994 field season we surveyed these two drainages to determine the number, size and location of other suitable habitat patches. No suitable habitat patches larger than about 50 m² were located. The total number of known bog lemming sites in Montana is 18, the most sites in any of the lower 48 states. Known sites in Montana range in size from 1 to approximately 340 acres. The best habitat predictor for potential northern bog lemmings sites in Montana is the presence of large, thick moss mats, particularly sphagnum moss.

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